WHAT IS CLAIMED

1. A method of analyzing frames at a node of a network by an intrusion prevention system executed by the node, comprising:

reading the frame by the intrusion prevention system;

comparing the frame with a machine-readable signature file;

determining the frame has a frame signature that corresponds with the machine-readable signature file; and

determining the machine-readable signature file has an associated squelch comprising a squelch threshold and a squelch period.

2. The method according to claim 1, further comprising disabling execution of a directive of the machine-readable signature file if a frame counter exceeds the squelch threshold.

3. The method according to claim 1, further comprising incrementing a frame counter upon determination that the frame signature corresponds with the machine-readable signature.

4. The method according to claim 1, further comprising determining whether the squelch period has elapsed.

5. The method according to claim 4, further comprising initiating a new squelch period upon determining the squelch period has elapsed.

6. The method according to claim 3, further comprising determining if the squelch threshold has been exceed by the frame counter.

7. The method according to claim 1, further comprising executing a directive of the machine-readable signature file upon determination that the squelch threshold has not been exceeded.

8. The method according to claim 1, further comprising suppressing execution of a directive of the signature file upon determination that the squelch threshold has been exceeded.

9. The method according to claim 8, wherein suppressing execution of a directive of the signature file further comprises suppressing execution of report generation associated with the determination that the frame signature corresponds with the machine-readable signature file.

10. A computer-readable medium having stored thereon a set of instructions to be executed, the set of instructions, when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform a computer method of:

reading a frame;

comparing the frame with a machine-readable signature file;

determining the frame has a frame signature that corresponds with the machine-readable signature file; and

determining the machine-readable signature file has an associated squelch comprising a squelch threshold and a squelch period.

11. The computer readable medium according to claim 10, further comprising a set of instruction that, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to perform a computer method of periodically incrementing a squelch period timer assigned to the machine-readable signature file.

12. The computer readable medium according to claim 11, further comprising a set of instructions that, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to perform a computer method of determining if the squelch period timer equals or exceed the squelch period.

13. The computer readable medium according to claim 12, further comprising a set of instructions that, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to perform a computer method of:

re-initiating the squelch period timer upon determination that the squelch period timer equals or exceeds the squelch period; and

incrementing a frame counter upon determining the frame signature corresponds with the machine-readable signature file.

14. The computer readable medium according to claim 12, further comprising a set of instructions that, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to perform a computer method of determining if a frame counter exceeds the squelch threshold.

15. The computer readable medium according to claim 14, further comprising a set of instructions that, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to perform a computer method of suppressing execution of a directive of the signature file upon determination that the squelch threshold has been exceeded by the frame counter.

16. The computer readable medium according to claim 14, further comprising a set of instructions that, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to perform a computer method of executing a directive of the signature file upon determination that the squelch threshold has not been exceeded by the frame counter.

17. The computer readable medium according to claim 15, wherein suppressing execution of a directive further comprises suppressing execution of a report generation associated with the determination that the frame signature corresponds with the machine-readable signature file.

18. The computer readable medium according to claim 13, further comprising a set of instructions that, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to perform a computer method of determining if the squelch is enabled.

19. The computer readable medium according to claim 13, further comprising a set of instructions that, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to perform a computer method of executing a directive of the signature file upon determining the squelch is disabled.